matters to be discussed. For instance, it will never be possible to convince this House that Government is following a repressive policy of launching political prosecutions without actual reference to the cases pending. Otherwise beyond making this statement there cannot be any effective discussion. For these reasons I cannot hold that this motion is in order.

Motion was ruled out of order.

(ii) re. the Fire Accident in Ernakulam.

Mr. President.—There is another adjournment motion of Mr. A. V. Moothedan "*to discuss the immediate necessity of making a public enquiry into the disastrous fire that broke out last week at Broadway, Ernakulam*". There are similar motions by Mr. Ezhuthassan "*to discuss the neglect of the authorities including the Government to keep in readiness proper and effective machinery and arrangement to fight fire as evinced in the recent gutting of a large number of shops in the Ernakulam Broadway*", and another one by Mr. Ramachandra Ayyar "*to discuss the recent disastrous fire out-break in the Ernakulam Bazaar.*" The 3 motions may be taken together.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Pallippuram*).—What I want to say is, what is the urgency to deal with it now? If there was carelessness on the part of the authorities concerned I can understand. In that case there is some meaning in it.

Mr. President.—The motion is in order. Does the Hon'ble Member object to it?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Pallippuram*).—I don't.

Mr. President.—I think for the convenience of the House, this motion may be taken up tomorrow, because the Finance Member's speech would have to be made at half-past three today. If the House agrees I will fix it at half-past 3 to-morrow.

(iii) re. the Suspension of P. Kochukrishna Menon.

Mr. President.—Then there is another motion by Mr. Ikkanda Warriar "*to discuss the suspension of Poomala Kochukrishna Menon, a school-master in a Malayalam school in State service, without giving reasons and the period for which he is suspended*".

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*).—I cannot understand the urgency of the matter or the public importance that underlies it. The teacher in question has been

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suspended, if I remember right, about a month back by the departmental head and it is a disciplinary action taken against him; so far as the public importance is concerned, if actions taken by departmental heads regarding their subordinates are concerned, if every one of such actions is to form the subject matter of an adjournment motion, then the words 'public importance' will have no meaning whatsoever. So far as the officer is concerned, it is perfectly open to him to appeal to the Government if by the order passed by the departmental head he has been aggrieved. In such circumstances, I must object to this motion. There is neither urgency nor is it of public importance. If it is important, it is important only to the particular individual.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction).*—The man was suspended for a definite period and the reason also is given.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—May I know whether the order that was given to him contained reasons for his suspension and the period for which he was suspended?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*—The order was issued by the departmental head to the inspecting officer concerned. The man was placed under suspension pending further enquiry. The period of suspension has been fixed as one month, and this was communicated through the inspecting officer to the teacher.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—I want to ascertain whether that statement is quite correct.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction).*—It is quite correct.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—I want to know whether as a matter of fact the nature of the offence committed by that officer and the period for which he was suspended were actually communicated to him along with the order of suspension. My position is this. I am not against taking disciplinary action against subordinates by the departmental heads. It affects the security of the officers concerned if they were not told, when an order of suspension is given to them, why they were suspended and for what period. I wish to know whether the first order given to him contained those informations.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction).*—The first order contained the reason for which he was suspended

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and it also stated that further enquiry was being made in to the circumstances which led up to his suspension, and after the 2nd enquiry the period of his suspension was fixed and that also was communicated to him through the inspecting officer.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Urakam*).—May I have a copy of that order?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*)—Certainly you can have it. But I have not got it now.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Urakam*).—Sir, in the light of what has been told to me by the Hon'ble Member for Education, I find that I am misinformed and I do not therefore press this motion.

Motion was by leave withdrawn.

(iv) re. the banning of "Malayalee" and "Bharathapatrika".

Mr. President.—There is another motion by Mr. Warriar *"to discuss the action of the Government in banning two Malayalam papers the "Malayalee" and the "Bharthapatrika" from the State"*.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*).—I rise to oppose this motion.

The banning of these papers was done by means of a Proclamation issued by His Highness the Maharaja under His prerogative powers. I think that even without my statement it is known that in discussing the propriety or otherwise of this measure the conduct of His Highness the Maharaja will have to be brought into discussion. It will be otherwise impossible to discuss this matter. Under Rule 25 clause 3 it is definitely laid down that a Member while speaking must not reflect upon the conduct of His Highness the Maharaja or His Majesty the King Emperor or the Ruler of any foreign State. My respectful submission is that without infringement of that rule it would be impossible to discuss this matter at all. If that is so, I submit that the motion is not in order. This Proclamation is not like the Proclamations issued bringing into force laws which are in force in British India. There is the practice of enacting laws existing outside the State by means of His Highess' Proclamation. There is also in emergent cases provision under Section 15 of the Legislative Council Act for His Highness to issue an Act. This matter is not of that

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